

Dr. Colelli opens new year as PSC Campus Provost

By Erica Sirk
Campus News Editor

The leaves are not the only things changing this fall at Potomac State. Our college has a new campus provost for the first time in almost a decade – Dr. Leonard A. Colelli – and he has big plans.

“I love small colleges,” Dr. Colelli said, and “my focus is to be at a school where teaching is valued.”

Colelli said he is working with WVU to get a new science building for our campus. He said that a new science hall is number two on WVU’s request to the state governing board for academic buildings to fund. There are about 60 projects on the list.

He also wants to explore additional Bachelor of Applied Science degrees in areas such as agriculture technology, hospitality, computer information systems, equine, and veterinary technology. Currently, the college has BAS degrees in business technology and criminal justice.

Colelli says he wants to upgrade academic programs so people can get jobs and be successful. One strategy he is looking at is creating more advisory boards of outside professionals for different academic areas.

In his professional career, he has focused on teaching and how to effectively improve in that area, with new ideas of integrating lectures and labs as one. “Hopefully I can make a difference here.”

Students should be glad to hear he also plans to acquire more scholarships.

In addition to a science building, Colelli says we need a new gymnasium and improvements to Golden Park baseball field.

Colelli began his undergraduate education at a small college in his Pennsylvania hometown. He



Photo by Elisha Wagoner

earned a master’s in education from the University of Maryland and a doctorate from Ohio State University.

He taught at Fairmont State University for 15 years and was Dean of the Eberly College of Science and Technology at California University of Pennsylvania for 12 years before coming to PSC.

In the small bit of free time the provost is afforded, he likes exercising at least one hour every day. He uses the treadmill and the elliptical machines, and you might bump into him because he is a member at the Fitness Center

on Spring Street.

New to the area, he and his wife enjoy the scenery of the area. “I can’t wait until fall.” They are still getting settled into their new home with their family dogs, a husky and a collie.

The Colelli family also includes a son at Fairmont State and a daughter who works in London. His daughter may be taking some classes at PSC in the spring semester.

Dr. Colelli enjoys biking, science fiction, and all the Dan Brown novels.

“I feel like I am in a track race,” he smiled, commenting on his busy schedule as the new Campus Provost.



Pasquino: Who are you?

We are the staff of your student newspaper, beginning our 92nd year of continuous publication on the campus of Potomac State College. We are journalism majors and students from other majors, learning the craft of writing, editing, photography, interviewing, and page layout. We are proud of America’s First Amendment free-press proclamation. We are proud of our name, Pasquino, in use since 1921, in honor of the Roman statue pictured left, one of Rome’s “talking statues,” where citizens left anonymous writings, critical of the government.

CAT NEWS



SGA elections today

Vote in front of the Student Union today, noon-2, for student government officers: Vice President: Annalissa Michael, PJ Cise, or Marquest Brice; Secretary: Michelle Horton, or James Gilbert.

Audition for college musical

Want to be part of McNeill’s Rangers, the spring musical at Potomac State? Auditions are Tuesday and Wednesday, next week, at 7 p.m. in the Church McKee Arts Center. Rehearsals begin in January of 2013. Show dates are March 14-24. Students receive one credit of Theatre 400 for being in the show. Talk with Dr. John Hawkins, music professor in Church-McKee for more information.



Catamount Place nears completion of third floor

By Jonathan Morse
Campus News Editor

Catamount Place, PSC’s new co-ed dorm, opened its doors to male residents at the beginning of this semester. Female residents are going to have to wait a

little longer to move in. The delay is in line with the size and scope of the \$2.3 million renovation project.

Anyone thinking the old Potomac Valley Hospital building was getting a fresh coat of paint and a few new light bulbs would be stunned to walk the halls today, said Mike Simpson, facilities director. The polished wood floors and new ceramic tile along with bright, wide-open living areas speak more to nice hotel than renovated old hospital.

Polished, solid-core doors equipped with magnetic, card-swipe locks line the bright, new corridors. Behind those doors

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CAMPUS NEWS

Health Fair was well attended

By Cheri Alt
Campus News Editor

"Total success, the best ever!" an excited Cherise Southerly said about this year's health fair. Southerly, the school nurse, said well over a hundred students stopped by for their event, which featured information, food, and free products from PSC, WVU, and community health and safety organizations and churches.

The Health Fair was held the second week of school in the Davis Conference Center.

The community was represented by WV Adolescence Pregnancy Prevention Initiative, Automated Health Systems, Dr. Diane Romaine & Associates, Mt. Hospice, Inc., Life Style Fitness Center, Mineral County Health Dept., Appalachian Hope Rehab, Potomac Highlands Substance Abuse Prevention Program, PVH Diabetic Education, Wal-Mart Vision Center, WV Family Planning Program, WV STD Program, WVU Extension Services, Weight Watchers and The Family Crisis Center.

Potomac State was represented by Catamounts Against Tobacco, Alcohol and Other Drugs Prevention Program, Counseling Services, the Office of Information Technology, and the PSC University Police.

The Health Center is adjacent to Reynolds Hall and open Monday-Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.



Photo by Hailey Truman, Editor

The Staff includes Cherise Southerly, RN; Donna Swick RN; Tamara Hansford, CRNP; and Dr. Tony Sweikis, medical director.

You can find them on the college web site, under Student Life. Web information includes a healthy student self-care guide

for after hours.

With more than six hundred students on campus, the first few weeks are busy for the staff. Southerly checks the CDC website every morning to stay informed on health trends and concerns. So far the concerns have been mild.

Allergies and flu season are kicking into gear. Remember to always wash your hands and take precautions, said Southerly.

Flu shots will soon be available, and at only \$15, they are your best defense. The staff will be making the rounds to introduce themselves to WVUe 191 classes. The nursing staff is happy to provide information and instruction for all of your health concerns. You are welcome to bring in your current medications if you have questions or need information.

One of the programs currently under way is the Why Not Quit? Program, helping to provide support and assistance with smoking cessation. The staff welcomes volunteers to help promote and advocate for the program.

The Health Center staff assists with illness, minor emergencies, family planning, medication, and referrals. The staff also promotes wellness in hopes of empowering students to make their own healthy choices. "As nurses we are here to advocate for your health," Southerly said with a smile.

Horses are 'pampered ponies'

By Paul Burford
Campus News Editor

Not many people know this, but Potomac State has a herd of quarter horses. They're part of the college's equestrian program, which began in 2003 with the donation of 28 horses by Bob and Jewell Evans.

The Evanses, who own a nationwide chain of restaurants, donated the horses to advance the study of equine sciences.

The horses receive regular veterinary care, including vaccinations every spring.

Feed is custom tailored to that particular horse's dietary requirements; as an example, nursing mares are fed "Legends II: Mare and Foal," while the stallions, geldings and non-nursing mares are fed varying mixtures of "Grow and Perform," and "Recov-



ery II-S."

The college has one horse, "Whiskey," who competes every year with American Quarter Horses.

"Red," on the other hand, has show business experience in his portfolio. He appeared in PSC's spring musical "Oklahoma" by Richard Rogers and Oscar Hammerstein, pulling a surrey across the stage in the final scene.

Some of the courses in the Equestrian program, that students may participate in are Equine Safety and Behavior; Riding Basics; and Advanced Horsemanship/Training.



Tutor Jennifer Jones (right) works with Monique McDondald in the Success Center. Photo by Barbara High

Academic Success Center is open for free tutoring

By Kelly Mills
Campus News Editor

The Academic Success Center is a room where anyone can go to accomplish many things, such as doing homework or writing a paper. It's a great, quiet place to study alone or with a group or even make up a missed test, all for no cost whatsoever.

"We help students do whatever they need, to do the best in their classes," said coordinator Molly Bennett.

Tutoring is also available for anyone struggling in a class, or for those who would like to improve their academic skills such as note taking or becoming a better test taker.

Molly Bennett also tutors in the social sciences. She encourages students to schedule an appointment for a tutor. If you can't come in, anyone can call her 304-788-7405, or email her at Molly.Bennett@mail.wvu.edu.

She advises that students make appointments for tutors in the beginning of the semester, rather than put it off until the last minute. "We try to make everything simple for the students and professors."

The full-time professional tutors in the Academic Success Center are Jennifer Jones, science; Lynn Laird, English; and Barry Stephens, math.

Martha Hood works part time as an English tutor. The Academic Success Center is located in Science Hall, Room 109 and is open Monday through Thursday from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m., and Friday from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

It has been an exciting start to the semester, said Laird, because more students are taking advantage of tutoring in the first three weeks of the semester.



Vote today

By Stephanie Wildman
Campus News Editor

SGA elections for Vice President and Secretary are from noon to 2 p.m. today, in front of the Union.

Returning officers are President Chris Pascoe and representative to SAC Jesse Cook.

Pascoe is a senior in the bachelor's program for criminal justice. Pascoe has been with SGA for two years and was Vice President last year. "I wanted to improve Potomac State and bring new ideas to the table," said Pascoe.

Jesse Cook is a sophomore from Lost River, W.Va. He's double majoring in political science and math. He likes that PSC is a small campus where the students and faculty get to know each other. "I would like to see students be more involved," said Cook.

Student schedules disrupted

By Linsay K. Baker
Campus News Editor

A near-record student enrollment for the college was disrupted in the second week of class by WVU's procedure that cut more than 100 students from class rosters. The "registered but not paid" designation meant that students who had not paid 60 percent of their tuition and fees were no longer participating in their normal fall semester.

Many of the affected students have resolved their financial issues, according to the Enrollment Services Office.

Most affected students continued to attend class and, if dorm students, live in their residence halls.

According to Enrollment Services, as long as any late fees are paid by Sept. 14, students will be in good standing. "The great staff that we have here, the college as a whole, really does care about our students and many go out of their way to help," said Beth Little, director of Enrollment Services.

Enrollment for the current semester looks strong, according to Little. This fall the number of first-time freshman stands stable at 741 students while last fall there were a record number of freshman at 744 students. At this time the number of students registered on and off campus is 1,807 while last year the head count was 1,816. The official count will come out at the end of September.

Little is thrilled that the

Enrollment Office is fully staffed now, which she says, "is very nice because we can better meet student's needs." Three counselors work with financial aid, four advisers work with admissions, and additional staff work with students in various areas in the main office.

Little has her own outlook on why Potomac State

is growing and it comes down to these top three reasons: we offer a small college experience, we are very affordable, and we have full ties to WVU. Little speculates that Potomac State is the largest feeder of transfer students to WVU. Little also said, "I would love to see new academic programs here!"

CLUB NEWS

Student Government Association Biweekly meetings of the SGA involve service and community projects, working on grants for the college, and social events on campus. SGA welcomes everyone to be a part of the student voice. Contact Aaron Edwards at aaron.edwards@mail.wvu.edu

Campus and Community Ministries works in the community. Bible study is held weekly and work projects are conducted throughout the local community. Everyone is welcome. They are planning trips and will be working with Habitat for Humanity. Contact James McCune jmccune301@aol.com

Boxing club: This year the club will be meeting on campus. To join you must have a 2.0 GPA. They plan to compete in two to four competitions throughout the year. Contact Heidi Samuels at Heidi.samuels@mail.wvu.edu or 304-788-6916

Catamount Against Cancer: This club will be planning the 7th annual Relay of Life at Potomac State. All students are encouraged to come out and take part. The past relays have been successful and they are hoping to have another good turnout this year, but need members to be involved in the planning process. Information is available on your MiX, or contact Deanna Armentrout at her office, second floor, Church-McKee.

Queers & Allies Club: This club is about the rights that pertain to people with certain sexual preferences and how to celebrate, embrace and raise awareness about their choice. The club meets every first and third Wednesday of the month. The biggest plan will be projects to raise awareness on the campus and provide education on accepting the cultural differences among our diverse student body.

Engineering Club meets in the engineering area of Academy Hall, first floor. See posted signs.



Photo by Barbara High

Miller hired in Library

By Alec Peer, Staff Writer

Dave Miller is the newest member of the library staff. He says his job mainly entails cataloging, being an interface for students and faculty at the front desk, and working with databases to update new records and clean out old ones.

Dave and I sat down behind the library just above the shade of the trees. He had his banjo with the bladder of a bicycle tire for a strap. His pick was a cut-off corner of a credit card secured to his thumb with a piece of black tape. I had my guitar.

Dave was born outside of Louisville, Kentucky and did a lot of moving around when he was younger. "My dad's side of the family is from this area and I've lived in and out of the area throughout the years."

Q: Where have you liked it best? "Here, it has its drawbacks in some respects; it's kind of out of the way. But any place is what you make of it."

Q: What interested you in the guitar? "Yeah...you know, I thought it was a sure fire way to meet girls. It kind of was but not really. It made me sit alone in my room a lot for a long time." "Right, right. Before you can get girls, you've got to be good," I remarked. "At about 22, I started picking up the banjo."

Q: Why the guitar or banjo versus a trumpet or drums or something else? "I really got into it. It's a portable instrument. It's versatile. If you're really good you can bend notes unlike some other instruments" (he plucks and bends a twangy sound from one of his banjo strings).

Q: What's the last album you bought? "It was a band called Foxhunt...based out of Martinsburg, West Virginia. They play old-time music with a bit of an edge, kind of like if you took John Prine and took him back to Civil War instrumentation and a little bit of Tom Waits. You know, like a real gritty, folksy kind of stuff."

Q: What's your favorite band or type of music? I realize that's a hard question to answer. "Yeah it is and it changes. Most recently, I think the stuff I've been throwing on just while I'm working, which is kind of the way I access my music. I was listening to this band called Hot Club of Cowtown and they play this western swing with a really heavy gypsies, jazz guitar influence."

Q: Why music? Explain what it means to you. "I have friends who do a lot more performing than I do. It's not my specialty. I can; I just don't prefer it. A lot of what I like doing is just catching down with a small group of people and playing as a way of communication, creating a bond, hanging out. You know, music is its own language. I just like meeting and bonding with other people over music."

So, the interview became a session: his banjo and my guitar. I led off with *Ramble On* by Led Zeppelin. Dave was soon there adding the nice fill of his banjo. He played a "gypsy-jazzy" flavor for me. I really enjoyed it.

Enrollment Services hiring students

Are you looking for an on-campus job? Do you want a job that is flexible around your schooling? If you answered yes to either one of these you might be interested in being a student telecounselor. Student telecounselors work in the Office of Enrollment Services a couple nights a week during the fall and spring semesters. As a telecounselor you will be contacting prospective students over the telephone to inform them about the college and to answer any questions they may have. You will learn more about the college as a telecounselor and this will make it easier for you to relay information to prospective students. In addition, telecounselors may also be asked to help with other activities in the Enrollment Services office. If you are interested, applications are available at the Office of Enrollment Services during the hours of 8-4:30. Applications are due by Friday, Oct. 5. If you have any additional questions feel free to contact MaryElizabeth Keller at 304-788-6820 or by email at Mary.Keller@mail.wvu.edu.

Changing the world, one can at a time

By Hailey Truman
Editor

We all know that the environment is changing. It's not at all what it used to be. Most of us don't care, but not sophomore Ashley Hammons. "It's disgusting how some people treat Earth. This is our home and they treat it like crap," she said.

Ashley is from Winchester, Va. and is a student here on campus majoring in sociology, but she is also an environmental activist who is trying to make a difference.

Trying to get more people involved in the recycling program and getting more recycling options are her biggest goals for the campus. "The environment is a core part of my life. That's why I love it, also because it's quiet, beautiful and not all the same," she said with a smile on her face.

There are so many things that Ashley loves to do that gets her to be a little bit closer with the environment. She likes to go hiking at Old Rag where the eight-mile hike is worth it at the end. She likes to go camping and be one with the wilderness for a couple hours, go kayaking so she can feel at peace in the water and go walking on the beach.

"Every time I go to the beach and see plastic bottles in the sand I pick them up and throw them away."

No matter where she is

Ashley makes sure that she can help the environment in some way.

Ashley wants to one day go to Brazil to go to the Amazon rainforest. "I think it would benefit every culture if people knew how beneficial it is to the world's ecosystem. I also think that it's absolutely beautiful and I've always wanted to go there."

Ashley may be only one person, but she hopes

that she can make a difference. She also hopes that she can get more people to use Chegg, which is an organization that when you buy their books and donate a dollar they will plant a tree and all of their books are reused.

"Sometimes I wish I could live in the old days, when I could look out my window and see a forest and not a lot of buildings. Life was much simpler back then."



New PE instructor has traveled the world

By Linsay K. Baker
Feature Editor

Potomac State welcomes Eric Slivoskey, whose teaching philosophy is "quick to listen, slow to speak; yell praise and whisper criticism."

Slivoskey is still unpacking at his home in Ridgeley, W.Va. and settling in here at the college where he is teaching seven different courses in physical education and other areas.

Slivoskey has travelled to all 50 states and 49 different countries. He has coached in countries such as India, where he was part of the start of EFLI, the elite football league of India, working with investors and other coaches from all over the world to introduce American football.

Slivoskey says, "I have always been interested in working with kids." He has several degrees: an AA in

mass communications, a BA in psychology, and an MA in physical education. Before coming to Potomac State he spent time in the Army studying behavioral science.

Slivoskey's interests include reading and writing (he is a published author), sports, history museums, and spending time with his family. He is married to a Great Britain native, Estalita, with whom he has shared 17 years and three children. They are the parents of Kamryn, a 12-year-old daughter; Kodie, a 10-year-old son; and Kaylin, a 6-year-old daughter.

"My kids kind of have that itch to travel too," says Slivoskey. They go to Europe to visit family as often as they can, but they are very happy to have settled in West Virginia.

"This is a good place to raise a family. It's slower

paced and friendly, like where I grew up," says Slivoskey. He was raised in Latrobe, Pa. by his mother and was greatly influenced by his uncle after his father passed away when he was young.

Slivoskey takes teaching seriously and likes to get a feel for his students before he rushes into teaching. He enjoys discussions with controversy and conflict because he says, "It's challenging and fun as long as each one is sensitive to the other person in the room."



Photo by Elisha Wagoner

Preston completes 26-year career at PSC



Charlie Preston retired Aug. 31 after 26 years as Academy Hall custodian. He plans to hunt, fish, work on his two Chevy trucks, spend time with family and "enjoy my life."

"My daughters are happy about my retirement. They have me lined up to clean out their basements, cut grass for them, and everything else," he said.

Preston has seen the connector built between Academy and Administration ("One of the best moves they made."), several roofs put on Academy Hall, and lots of good people come and go.

Charlie is looking forward to the first hunting season of the year: squirrel. "They make a good pot pie." Maryland deer season is next, along with crossbow season. "Bow hunting is my favorite. There's a little more sport to it," he said.

Charlie will be restoring a 1996 Chevy S10, interior and exterior. "I'll come back to visit once in awhile," he promised.

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The volleyball team opens a five-game home stand Monday at 7 against Hagerstown. Also next week, the team plays on Wednesday at 7 against Frederick and Saturday at 5 against Butler. The team enters this season as defending Pennsylvania State Champions and WPCC champs.

Undefeated Lady Cats play today

By Amber Ravenscroft
Editor

The Potomac State women's soccer team dominated Patrick Henry College on Saturday, Sept. 8, in what marked their third shutout of the season. The Lady Cats ended the game with a score of 7-0. Sophomore forward Laurel Podlesnik put two in the net, along with scores from fellow sophomores Ashley Thomas, Abigail Altman, and Megan Tomkinson, and freshmen, Sarah Sine and Payton Derryberry.

The Lady Cats earned their second victory in a shutout over Frederick Community College on Thursday, Sept. 6.

Freshman, Nikki Rowe, and sophomores, Altman, Sadey Crooks, and Podlesnik each put one in the net to end the game with a final score of 4-0. Goalkeepers Acasha Smith and Brittany Yates each had a save.

The team started off their 2012 season with a victory on Friday, Aug. 31, against Lord Fairfax Community College. Cassie Alamo, freshman, and Altman, both led the team with two goals each.

Crooks and Podlesnik each contributed one goal to end the game with a score of 6-0. Goalkeepers Smith and Yates both had one save.

The Lady Cats worked hard to prepare for the start of their 2012 season. "We came within one game of the national tournament last season, so it's going to be hard to beat," says head coach Mark Sprouse.

He plans to emphasize team unity, focus, and ball control in his everyday practices. Looking ahead to their future games, he sets his sights on those teams in the region, including Westmoreland, Howard, and the national champions, Montgomery College, to be their biggest rivalries.

The team currently has 17 players, with eight returning sophomores. Among those sophomores are the team's captains, Raven Bierman and Sadey Crooks; and last year's lead scorer Abigail Altman.

Altman has a shot at the all-time scoring record for the Lady Cats, with 14 goals scored last year. She needs just eight more to break the record currently held by Danielle McGinnis.

CAT SPORTS

Men play Saturday at 2

By Amber Ravenscroft
Editor

The Potomac State men's soccer team will play home games Saturday at 2 p.m. against the College of Southern Maryland and next weekend, Sunday at 1 p.m., against northern Virginia Community College.

The team opened its fall season with a 3-1 victory over Lord Fairfax Community College on Friday, Aug. 31. Zachary Saylor, sophomore, led the team with two goals, followed by a goal from sophomore Trey Ogilvie. Goalkeeper Conor Fungaroli had two saves for the Catamounts.

Results from a scheduled game on Monday were unavailable at press time.

The team boasts 18 returning sophomores this season. An estimated 50 athletes went out for the team, with only seven freshmen making the cut.

The faces of new freshmen recruits weren't the only new ones at practice. Coach Ray Kiddy also brought on a new assistant coach, Steve Amann, for the fall season. Amann boasts a lengthy career as head coach of the Westmar High School Lady Wildcats, which then consolidated into Mountain Ridge High School, where he was an assistant coach for the Lady Miners. Amann helps out with situational plays, such as corner kicks and free kicks.

Kiddy and his assistants have worked hard to incorporate their freshman recruits into a dominantly sophomore team in time for the season opener. "After this year it will be up to them to keep the PSC soccer program alive," said sophomore midfielder Henry Herkes.

Leadership positions are rotated throughout the sophomores, with captains varying each game. Rivalries run deep in the region, with sophomores gearing up for a heated battle for their home game with Hagerstown Community College, a team they drew 2-2 with last year. They're also looking forward to another battle with Howard County



The 2012-2013 men's soccer team.

Photo from the PSC Web site

Community College, the national four in the country last season that stopped them from making it to the fi-

Welcome Big 12?

Opinion by Ryan Minnigh, Sports Writer

Two weeks into the 2012 college football campaign and West Virginia Mountaineer fans are eagerly awaiting the start of Big 12 Play. West Virginia has had previous success against the Big 12 Conference in bowl games, most recently upsetting national-power Oklahoma in the 2008 Fiesta Bowl. However, common to national belief, West Virginia's former conference is one of the weakest in the country. The Big 12, which features long-time national powers such as Oklahoma and Texas, is regarded as one of the strongest in the country.



West Virginia, ranked in the top 10 nationally, made quick work of state-rival Marshall on Saturday Sept. 1. WVU jumped out to a 34-10 lead within the first two quarters and finished off the Thundering Herd, 69-34. Geno Smith completed 32 of 36 passes for 323 yards, 4 touchdowns, and added another touchdown on the ground. Shawne Alston added two touchdowns. However, there is room for concern on the defensive side of the ball. The Mountaineers gave up 34 points and 545 yards to an unranked Marshall team who is coming off a less-than-impressive 7-6 record (0-3 against Top 25 teams).

West Virginia has a tough stretch of games during October and into November. West Virginia pays a visit to #15 ranked Texas on Oct. 6. One week later, the Mountaineers continue their Texas road trip to play Texas Tech. One week later, West Virginia hosts #22 Kansas State.

With a bye week in between, the Mountaineers have to re-focus on hosting #20 Texas Christian University. Then, West Virginia heads to Stillwater to face the #19 ranked Oklahoma State Cowboys. Finally, the Mountaineers host national power and #4 ranked Oklahoma on Nov. 17.

West Virginia has arguably not seen a schedule of this caliber in all their years in the Big East. The Big East traditionally has one or two ranked team whereas the Big 12 this year already has six, including the Mountaineers.

With all this being said about the 2012 football season, how do you, the public, view the Mountaineers' outlook? What looks to be the team's biggest weakness heading into the rest of this season? Is Geno Smith truly a Heisman Trophy contender? Can West Virginia win the Big 12 Conference in only its first year there?

These questions will all be answered down the road, but they make for great discussion topics after only one Mountaineer game.

Our Opinions

I support Romney

I support Mitt Romney for president. We can't afford four more years of Barack Obama. In 2008, Obama touted hope and change, but after one term of his administration, we now see that hope and change was nothing but reckless spending and unemployment lines.

Let's take a look at three key parts of President Obama's record. After all, it's the economy stupid.

President Obama is the five trillion dollar man. The federal government's debt has increased by over \$5 trillion during his term. He is now the first president to see the debt increase over \$5 trillion while in office. Mitt Romney has promised to reduce spending if elected.

Next, we have Obamacare. President Obama passed a health care bill that the American people did not want. It is estimated that Obamacare will cost \$2.6 trillion over the next ten years, which is \$1.7 trillion more than Obama promised. As it turns out, \$716 billion was cut from Medicare to pay for Obamacare. Mitt Romney has promised to repeal Obamacare if elected.

Finally, that brings me to unemployment. President Obama passed the Stimulus bill and promised to create shovel-ready jobs. He said once the Stimulus passed, unemployment wouldn't go over 8 percent. Well, the Stimulus passed and unemployment went over 8 percent, and remains above 8 percent to this day. Unemployment among African-Americans stands at 14 percent. Obama said, "Shovel ready wasn't as shovel ready as we expected." Mitt Romney knows how to turn businesses around and create jobs, as his success at Bain Capital proves. He helped lead to success businesses such as Staples, The Sports Authority, Dominoes Pizza, and Sealy. That's the difference between a businessman and a community organizer.

I support Mitt Romney because we need a president who believes in the American people, not big government. Please exercise your right to vote on November 6.

Kenny Kimble



I support Obama

Watching the Republican National Convention, one could be forgiven for thinking someone seemed to be missing, and not until former President Clinton took the stage at the Democratic National Convention did it truly hit me who was missing: George W. Bush. I do not think he was even mentioned, and I watched the whole thing. The only memorable thing from that convention was the legendary Clint Eastwood, sadly, making a fool of himself. In contrast, everyone from the newsroom to the blogosphere is talking about the speeches given by First Lady Michelle Obama and Clinton at the DNC.

And then we have Republican presidential nominee Mitt Romney, and his vice presidential nominee Paul Ryan. Ryan, who has been quoted as referring to rape as a form of conception, attacked President Obama for cutting \$716 billion from Medicare, which is a little on the awkward side, considering his own budget included those same cuts. Mitt Romney, meanwhile, has said that he wants to keep the government out of the lives of the American people, yet he sees no problem in telling people who fight for our country that they cannot marry, or serve openly, because they are gay. He sees no problem in regulating a woman's body, as if it is something he owns. What he does see a problem with is the regulation of corporations, because to him, "corporations are people."

Obama was nominated based primarily on the promise of change. What people fail to understand is that part of changing means undoing what was previously done. Governor Romney argues that corporations are people, yet sees no problem with reaping the benefits off corporations being closed down. Memo to Romney: corporations are not people, but they are filled with them, and so is America. President Obama has kept America from being closed down after eight years of people like Romney driving their profits up, at the expense of the American people. I cannot help but ask the question, why would you vote for Romney?

Nick Adams



Smokers have rights too

WVU is thinking about becoming a smoke-free campus, indoors and outside. I disagree with this action for the University and I strongly disagree with this policy for our campus.

I fully understand that smoking can lead to serious health problems. I am also aware that second-hand smoke can be very harmful, and some people simply do not want those toxins in their bodies. Smoking indoors is widely outlawed, with good reason. When I have guests in my home I ask them if they care if I smoke, as a personal courtesy.

But I feel completely different about smoking outdoors. Our campus is a pretty big place with lots of open area. If you don't want to breathe smoke then avoid the smokers. You might have to avoid being around your buddies who smoke sometimes, but taking away their rights is not the answer. If you make a choice to better yourself then you have to be the one to make the sacrifice. You cannot expect the world to change for you. Vegans avoid meat, and meat is still allowed on campus. I know that sounds silly if you take it at face value, but think about it. Vegans and non-smokers are both making a lifestyle choice that they believe is better for their health. Not everyone is going to make the same choice.

Littering from smokers is a concern as well. Cigarette butts all over the place is a terrible thing for many reasons. Littering is bad, but littering is the issue and not smoking. If we ban smoking in part due to littering, then should we also ban drinking soda due to empty bottles scattered across campus?

Perhaps a ban isn't the only way smoking could be handled. Designated smoking areas could work very well. Then people wouldn't have to worry about somebody randomly lighting up beside them. I prefer this solution more than an all-out ban. If designated smoking areas did come to pass then I would suggest that they be somewhat plentiful so that no one had to go on a hike to smoke.

We are no longer in elementary school where we need to be supervised for our best interests. We are adults, and are paying to be here. Our rights should not be taken away just because we are not making the healthiest choice.

Donnie Harris



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Cat Place

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are wholly re-built suites accommodating one to four students and equipped with expanded cable and high-speed Internet. Each student has his or her own, larger-than-average wardrobe, handmade in Pennsylvania. One new resident said that he'd never lived in a place so nice. He said it was nicer than his house back home.

As proud as Simpson was about the finished residence floor, he really came alive on the unfinished third floor where bundles of wires hang from the open ceiling and stacks of materials are staged in place, waiting for their turn to be added to the on-going project. Simpson pointed out the huge amount of work required to bring each element of the old building into the 21st century.

All new wiring, plumbing, heating, air conditioning, and fire system was required for the new



Photo by Kevin Simpson

residence hall. Entire walls were torn down and new ones erected.

In reaction to ghosts haunting the old building, Simpson laughed "If there are any ghosts in here, they're welcome to pick up a paint brush and help us finish the third floor."

When completed, the ground floor will house a public coffee shop and a resident-only gym. At the time of our original conversation, Simpson confidently stated that they expected to have the girl's dorm open by the second week in September, and the ground

floor facilities by the first of the year. When I spoke to him on Thursday, Sept 6th,

Simpson's latest estimate is that the women should be moving in around the weekend of Sept. 21, providing the State Fire Marshall is able to get in for final inspection.

"They'll be working 14- to 16-hour days till then," Simpson spoke of the crew. The student elevator is likely to take an additional week to ten days before its complete modernization allows it to be enjoyed by the residents of PSC's newest home away from home.



Brian Kerling and Chad Robinette Photo by Brittany Biddle

Kerling running campus police

By Brittany Biddle
Campus News Editor

Brian Kerling is our new Interim Assistant Director of Public Safety and Transportation.

Kerling was a criminal justice major at Potomac State, Hagerstown Community College, and also earned credits from Marshall University.

He has experience in anti-terrorism training and also attended an FBI SWAT school.

He attended the West Virginia State Police Academy in the 114th class and is now in his 12th year as a police officer. When asked how he liked the new posi-

tion here at PSC, Kerling said, "I like it a lot; it keeps me real busy."

The major issues the campus police have had to deal with so far this year are drugs and alcohol, and they have the occasional theft and destruction of property. The regular duty of the campus police consists of patrolling the surrounding streets, dorms, and arriving at the call-ins they receive from the students.

Past activities include handing out coupons to students for driving safely and conducting self-defense classes.

September is the most dangerous month for college students. With so many opportunities for meeting new people at parties and events, this time of the year is also known as the "Red Zone," named for the high incidence of sexual assault and violent crime that occurs during this period. When students let their guard down or are drinking among strangers, students are at their most vulnerable to violent campus crime: 95% of these violent campus crimes are alcohol or drug related.

Stay safe during THE RED ZONE!!!!



683,000 forcible rapes occur every year, which equals 1.9 per month, 1.5 per day, .63 per hour, and 1.3 per minute.

This campaign brought to you by the PSC Alcohol & Drug Prevention Program

**Interviews and photos by
Emma Patterson**

Freshmen Speak

What has been your biggest adjustment to college life?



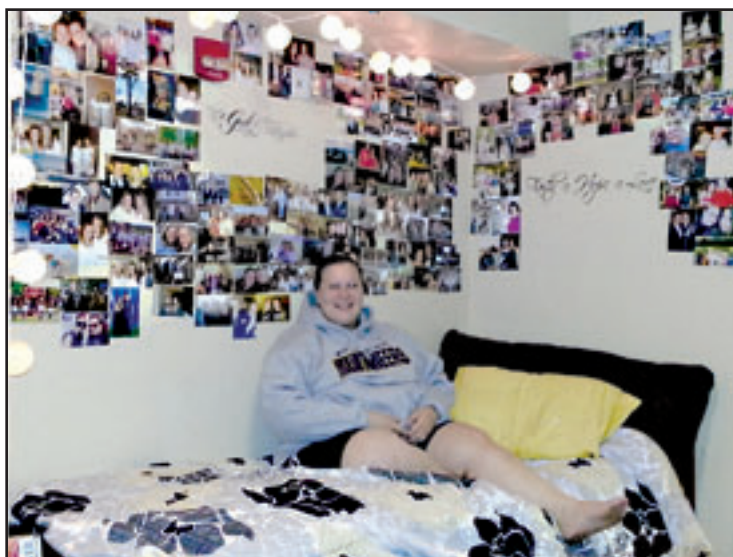
Name: Daniel Carter
Dorm Hall: University Place
Major: Mechanical Engineering
Biggest Adjustment to College Life: "Being on my own and actually having to make my own decisions."



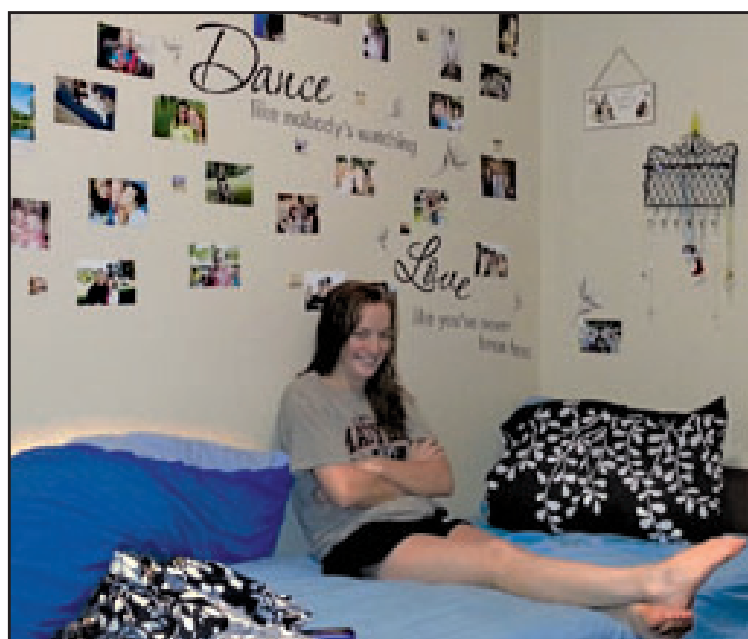
Name: Kati Robinson
Dorm Hall: Friend
Major: Criminal Justice
Biggest Adjustment to College Life: "Not having home cooked meals and actually having to study."



Name: Kirsten Golden
Dorm Hall: Memorial
Major: General Studies
Biggest Adjustment to College Life: "Motivating myself to get up and go to class on time. It is definitely different not having my mom here to make sure I'm up and about."



Name: Tiffany Sine
Dorm Hall: University Place
Major: Pre-Nursing
Biggest Adjustment to College Life: "Not having my support system here, my family and friends. Being on my own for the first time is also a huge adjustment."



Name: Amanda Boswell
Dorm Hall: University Place
Major: Equine Production and Management
Biggest Adjustment to College Life: "Being away from my family and friends for the first time!"



Name: Megan Curry
Dorm Hall: Reynolds
Major: Equine Production and Management
Biggest Adjustment to College Life: "Making sure I have enough time in the day to do all of my work."